CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	V. I. Lenin Works, Pilsen	DATE DISTR.	21 May 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Coke and Gas Production

1. In the westerly portion of the V.I.Lenin Works at Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, near Gates VII and VIII, there is a large sheet-metal installation identified as a Gasanlage. The installation is sunk about 2½ to 3 meters below the level of the street and is 700 or 800 meters long and three stories high, without windows. Presumably this installation produces gas because two cooling towers approximately 12 meters tall were observed in the immediate vicinity. There are two gasometers of 24,000 cubic meter capacity near the Gasanlage. Several pipes running from the Gasanlage were observed, as were puddles of coal tar near the pipe joints. It is believed that napthalene is produced as a by-product in the Gasanlage. No steam was observed rising from the Gasanlage.

2. It is doubtful that the V.I.Lenin Works has its own coking plant; no coking ovens or quenching towers were observed.

3. Large numbers of rail cars loaded with coal were observed within the plant. It was believed to be brown coal.

4. It is believed that gas is produced in the gas filtering station immediately adjacent to the large smelting hall. Gas pipes were observed running from the gas filtering plant to the Siemens-Martin furnaces in the large smelting hall.

Ore Production

5. Reportedly there is no iron ore being used or prepared in the V.I.Lenin Works. Steel production is derived from scrap iron.

Steel Production

6. The steel producing furnaces are located in the large smelting hall and are on a steel platform about eight meters high.

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STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	FBI	AEC			
x	x	x	x	x				

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

7. There is one 10-ton electric arc furnace (Siemens-Halske) which replaced an old four-ton electric arc furnace; one old 10-ton AEG arc furnace, built in 1936 or 1937, which is now in poor condition; three four-ton electric arc furnaces, two of which are old and will be replaced by a six-ton and a four-ton electric furnace manufactured by Siemens-Halske. A 10-ton electric arc furnace was planned but it is not known whether it will be completed due to present Austro-Czech trade difficulties. In addition there are two old-type 60-ton Siemens-Martin furnaces, one of which was damaged in 1951 when a live artillery shell hidden in a load of scrap iron exploded.

8. The production of the five electric arc furnaces is estimated to be 32 tons per six-hour smelting period. In a 24 hour period, 128 tons of steel known as ST60.12 are produced. The charge of the furnaces can, however, be increased to 12 tons and, on one occasion, a 10-ton furnace was loaded with 14 tons of scrap metal. The furnaces are tapped once every six hours. The Siemens-Martin furnaces produce normal malleable steel which does not have a high alloy content.

9. The arc furnaces are usually charged with 80 percent scrap and 20 percent pig iron. Seven traveling cranes are used for the charging of the electric arc furnaces. An additional 40-ton traveling crane has been installed to service the new 10-ton electric arc furnace. The Siemens-Martin furnaces are serviced by two 15-ton bridge cranes. In the casting hall there are four 60-ton bridge cranes and two or three smaller bridge cranes. The traveling bridge cranes are on two levels (sic).

10. Nickel, chrome, silicium, vanadium and tungsten are added to the metal in the arc furnaces. These metals, which arrive in boxcars and are unloaded by hand, are stored in small bins on the furnace platforms. The metals are hand-shoveled into the furnaces after an analysis of the metal in the furnaces is made in the nearby laboratories. Carbon in powder form is apparently in short supply in Czechoslovakia because, in order to add carbon to the molten charge, Czech workers tip the carbon electrodes into the molten steel, thus damaging the electrodes and shortening their life. The electrodes are 300 millimeters in diameter and are of Soviet origin.

11. The molten steel is carried directly from the furnaces by overhead crane into the casting hall. The castings leave the casting hall on railroad flatcars and are covered with tarpaulins. At one time 25 tons of steel were cast into a single mold.

Rolled Products and Forgings

12. Within the V.I. Lenin Works, there are two buildings where forging is done. The steel billets for the forging mill arrive by rail from outside the plant. No rolling mill or tube-producing installation was observed at the plant.